

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael D. Harris
Robert S. Pavlik, Jr.

Serial No: 10/034,533

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: REFRACTORIES FOR FUSED SILICA
PRODUCTION FURNACES



Examiner:

Group Art Unit: 1755

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APR 18 2002
TC 1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 – 1.98

Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

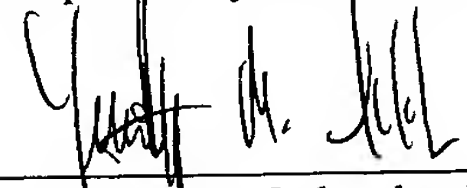
The Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the following reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. One copy of the reference(s) is enclosed.

Each of the enclosed reference(s) was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the enclosed documents constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the submitted documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant(s) reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

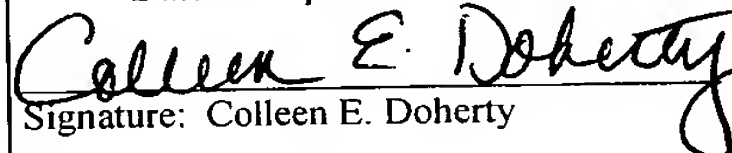
Applicant(s) further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy M. Schaeberle
Registration No. 34,424
Corning Incorporated
SP-TI-03-1
Corning, NY 14831
(607) 974-3164

Date: 4/8/02

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 8, 2002
Date of Deposit


Signature: Colleen E. Doherty



FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

SP00-381

10/034,533

LIST OF PATENTS AND
PUBLICATIONSFOR APPLICANTS INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANT Harris et al.

FILING DATE December 21, 2001

GROUP: 1755

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub- Class	Filing Date if Approp.
	AA	5,043,002	8/27/91	Dobbins et al.	65	3.12	
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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TC 1700

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub- Class	Translation Yes No
	AL	0 978 487A2	2/9/00	EPO	C03B	19/14	
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	
	AU	
	AV	
	AW	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: TIMOTHY M. SCHAEFERLE
CORNING INCORPORATED
SP T1 9 1
CORNING, NEW YORK 14831

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APR 18 2002

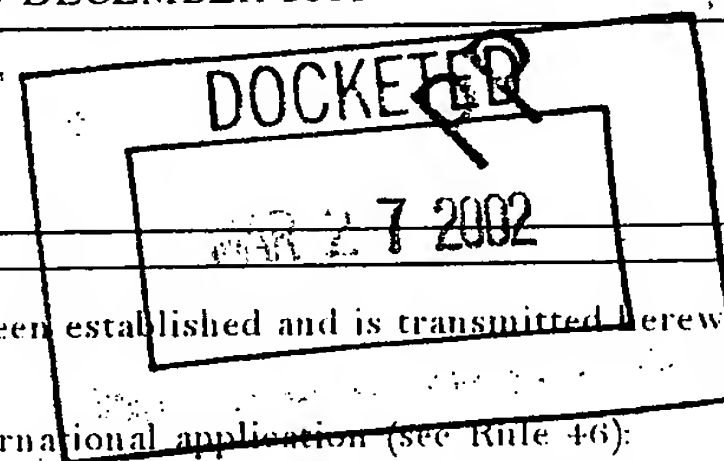
TC 1700

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of Mailing (day/month/year)	22 MAR 2002
Applicant's or agent's file reference SP00-381	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
International application No. PCT/US01/49151	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 DECEMBER 2001
Applicant CORNING INCORPORATED	



1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
84, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (+1-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in rules 90 bis 1 and 90 bis 2, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer SCOTT RASTLER Telephone No. (703) 308-2500
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SP00-381	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US01/49151	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 DECEMBER 2001	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 21 DECEMBER 2000
Applicant CORNING INCORPORATED		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the
- ☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.
2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).
3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (See Box II).
4. With regard to the **title**,
- ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:
5. With regard to the **abstract**,
- ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant
- ☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 35.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.
- c. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1
- ☒ as suggested by the applicant.
- ☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- ☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.
- ☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US01/49151

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

NEW ABSTRACT

A fused silica production furnace (100) and methods of producing fused silica are disclosed. The furnace (100) and the methods involve using a foamed refractory (12) having a network of interconnected pores.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US01/49151

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C03B 37/022

US CL : 266/280, 283; 65/386

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 266/280, 283; 65/386

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,043,002 A (DOBBINS et al) 27 August 1991, figure 1, col. 6 lines 20-50.	1-10
A	EP 0,978,487 A2 (CORNING INCORPORATED) 09 February 2000, figure 3.	1-10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"I" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason as specified	"Z"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

01 MARCH 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

22 MAR 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

SCOTT KASTLER

Telephone No. (703) 305-2506